

III. REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 1, 7-10 and 12-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Mori (US 7088362) for reasons set forth in the Action.

Correction was required, in claims 8 and 13, of an indefinite passage having the phrase "such as". With respect to the requested correction of claim 8, it is noted that this correction has already been accomplished by the previous response. With respect to the requested correction of claim 13, claim 13 is amended to delete the offending phrase "such as used in a mobile communication terminal or a PDA".

Claims 2-6 and 11 were said to have allowable subject matter.

Claims 16-26 are withdrawn from prosecution.

With respect to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102, the following argument is presented to distinguish the claimed subject matter from the teachings of the cited art, considered individually and in combination, thereby to overcome the rejections of claims 1, 7-10 and 12-15 and to show the presence of allowable subject matter in the claims.

Mori discloses in column 11, lines 54-56: "this preliminary hidden-surface test inspects only if a sub-polygon represented by a given vertex is not located in front of another object". From this passage in Mori, it cannot be concluded that the start of a triangle strip is commenced by selecting a triangle that does not potentially occlude any of the unprocessed triangles, as is called for by step b) of present claim 1. It is noted that, in the description of Muri, the term "triangle" has not yet appeared, and the teaching is in terms of polygons and sub-polygons.

In contrast to the teaching of the subject matter of present claim 1, the test described in Mori checks if the sub-polygon is not located in front of another object, while the test in claim 1 checks if another polygon obscures the polygon concerned. Furthermore, there is no indication of a check in Mori relative to the already selected polygons in

Mori. Thus, it appears that step b) of present claim 1 is not disclosed in Mori, contrary to the opinion of the examiner.

In an attempt to show anticipation of step c) of present claim 1, the examiner cites, in Mori, a passage (Column 17, lines 18-36), which teaches a method of generating two triangles from one sub-polygon by dividing the sub-polygon. This passage in Mori does not disclose step c) of present claim 1, which requires selection of a neighboring triangle to add to the last triangle in the triangle strip.

Step d) of present claim 1 is not taught in Mori because the passage (column 11, lines 54-56) does not disclose the step of determining the potential of the triangle concerned to occlude any of the unprocessed triangles, as is called for by present claim 1. In particular the reference to the unprocessed triangles is absolutely not disclosed in Mori.

It is observed that, in the three method steps b), c) and d) of claim 1, their combined teaching states that there is a selecting of a triangle that does not potentially occlude any of the unprocessed triangles to start a triangle strip, followed by selecting a neighboring triangle to add to the last triangle in the triangle strip, and then determining whether the selected neighboring triangle has the potential to occlude any of the unprocessed triangles. The following steps set forth an action to be taken in the event that the selected neighboring triangle does not have the potential to occlude any of the unprocessed triangles, and an alternative action to be taken in the event that the selected neighboring triangle has the potential to occlude any of the unprocessed triangles.

In reading claim 1, the steps should be taken in the context of the foregoing teaching of claim 1. The examiner's reading of the successive steps appears to take them out of context. For example, in the foregoing discussion of step c) of claim 1, and the foregoing Mori passage (Column 17, lines 18-36) teaching a method of generating two triangles from one sub-polygon, there is no suggestion in Mori of how the triangular

strip is developed, as set forth in the following steps d), e) and f) of claim 1. For example, the examiner reverts to column 9 of Mori wherein there is a teaching of dividing a primitive into sub-polygons, sets of which define meshes (lines 40-44).

In an attempt to show anticipation of step e) of present claim 1, the examiner cites, in Mori, the above-referenced passage (column 9, lines 21-58) that has no relation whatsoever to the generation of triangle strips, and can therefore not disclose a step in a method that teaches only the generation of triangle strips.

The foregoing argument urging lack of relevance of Mori applies also to the features of step f) of present claim 1.

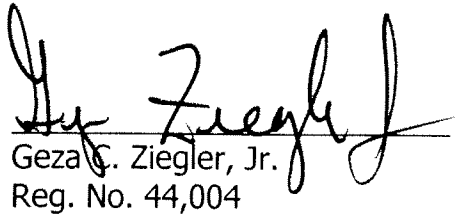
Claims 7-10 and 12-15, which are dependent on claim 1, are believed to be distinguishable over the teachings of Mori, in view of the foregoing argument, and in view of the further definition of the presently claimed subject matter provided by these dependent claims.

It is urged that the foregoing argument shows that Mori does not teach or suggest the present invention as set forth in present claim 1, and certainly not in its depending claims which recite still further detail.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the elected claims now present in the application set forth the invention clearly, and are ready for an Action on the merits. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


Geza C. Ziegler, Jr.
Reg. No. 44,004

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Date

Perman & Green, LLP
425 Post Road
Fairfield, CT 06824
(203) 259-1800
Customer No.: 2512